CARR-577

Alesia Historic District Alesia

In 1862 there was no town of Alesia, but in the area Jacob Hoffacker had a grist mill and sawmill. Local history claims that one of the surveyors on the railroad became enamored of Samuel Hoffacker's daughter, Alicia, and the village was thus named for her. The Baltimore and Hanover Railroad completed the branch on 1 December 1879, and the town seems to have arisen in the following years. There was much other activity in Alesia after the arrival of the railroad. The Knights of Pythias built the structure at 4002 Alesia to Lineboro Road, and the lower story was used as a school until 1931. There were several stores in the town, and a blacksmith shop was located at the corner of 4708 Alesia Road. Many of the houses in the area were built by John Haines, according to a local history.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND	Magi	No.	
HISTORIC	INVENTORY OF PROPERTIES	yes	no

1. Name	(indicate pre	ferred name)				
historic Alesia	Historic District					
and/or common						
2. Local	tion					
street & number				ne	ot for publicat	ion
		vicinity of	congressional dist		•	
city, town Ale		<u> </u>				
3. Class	ification	county	Carroll			
Category C X district _ building(s) _ structure _ site F	Ownership publicX private both Public Acquisition in process being considered Xnot applicable	Status X occupied unoccupied work in progress Accessible X yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no	Present Use X agriculture commercial educational entertainme government industrial military	x nt _	museum park private resi religious scientific transportat other:	
4. Owne	er of Prope	ty (give names a	nd mailing addr	esses of	all owner	:s)
name						
street & number			telepho	ne no.:		
city, town		state	and zip code			
5. Loca	tion of Leg	al Description	on			
courthouse, registr	ry of deeds, etc. Cour	thouse Annex		1	iber	
street & number	55 North Court St	reet		f	olio	
city, town West	minster		s	tate Mar	yland	
6. Repre	esentation	in Existing	Historical S	Surveys	, ,	
title						
date			federal	state _	county _	loca
pository for surv	ey records					
city, town			S	state		

7.	Description	
	. <u> </u>	

Survey No. CARR-577

Condition Check one Check one — excellent — deteriorated — unaltered X original site — good — ruins X altered — moved date of move X fair — unexposed	excellent deteriorated good ruins	unaltered	X original site		
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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary: The town of Alesia is located approximately 1½ miles northeast of Millers in northeast Carroll County, Maryland. It is concentrated primarily on Alesia Road, which runs southwest to northeast and generally parallels the Western Maryland Railroad (now CSX) tracks in this vicinity. The road runs along the middle of a low, moderately sloping ridge that slopes down to the northwest, toward a branch of the Gunpowder Falls. The town consists of approximately fourteen properties with about 31 contributing resources.

The house at 4707 Alesia Road is a two-story, five-bay frame structure with a center entrance plan. It has a rubble stone foundation with quoins, asbestos shingle siding, and a standing-seam metal gable roof. It is banked on the southeast and faces northwest, toward the road. The windows are 4/4 sash with blinds, and the door is four panels, with semi-circular arched top panels and a three-light transom. The first story has windows in the end bays but not in the two bays that flank the door, while all five bays of the second story are glazed. There is a raised, one-story, five-bay porch with half-hip roof and square posts on the northwest. The porch has a jigsawn balustrade and retains some brackets on the cornice. The exposed cellar wall is three bays, like the first story, with a vertical board central door and one vertical board shutter on each window. The box cornice of the house has a plain fascia board. There is an ell on the east end of the southeast elevation with a second-story porch on the southwest. Behind the house is a brick smokehouse with a hipped roof that has a wood vent at the peak. It has a vertical board door on strap hinges on the northwest. Beyond this is a banked, vertical board shed on stone piers, with a gable roof and two doors on strap hinges on the southwest gable end. There is also a bank barn at the rear of the lot. It has a stone lower story, vertical board siding and a standing-seam metal gable roof. The forebay faces northwest. The lower story of this elevation is wood siding, while the upper story has four wood louvered vents and a single, central, vertical board door on strap hinges. The barn is two bays deep.

The house at 4708 Alesia Road is a two-story, three-bay, central entrance plan structure with a rubble stone foundation, large cedar shingle (?) siding and a gable roof of inverted-V-seam metal. It has 2/2 sash and a door with one large light above one lying panel, with two vertical panels at the bottom. The house faces southeast, toward the road, and has a three-bay, one-story, shed-roof porch with four turned posts, turned balusters and spindle apron, and jigsawn brackets. The house is two bays deep and has an enclosed one-story porch on the rear. There is a one-story frame summer kitchen that is connected to the south corner by a sloping porch roof. This building is three-bays wide by two-bays deep, with German siding and a gable roof of inverted-V-seam metal.

Period prehistoric 1400–1499 1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799X 1800–1899X 1900–	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historicX agriculture x architecture artX commerce communications	heck and justify below community planning landscape conservation law economics literature X education military engineering music exploration/settlement philosoph industry politics/g invention	social/ humanitarian hy theater
Specific dates		Builder/Architect	
а	icable Criteria: XA	B <u></u> CD ABCDEFG	

Significance

Survey No. CARR-577

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Level of Significance: national state Xlocal

Summary: In 1862 there was no town of Alesia, but in the area Jacob Hoffacker had a grist mill and sawmill. Local history claims that one of the surveyors on the railroad became enamored of Samuel Hoffacker's daughter, Alicia, and the village was thus named for her. The Baltimore and Hanover Railroad completed the branch on 1 December 1879, and the town seems to have arisen in the following years. There was much other activity in Alesia after the arrival of the railroad. The Knights of Pythias built the structure at 4002 Alesia to Lineboro Road, and the lower story was used as a school until 1931. There were several stores in the town, and a blacksmith shop was located at the corner of 4708 Alesia Road. Many of the houses in the area were built by John Haines, according to a local history.

Historic Period Themes: Agriculture, Architecture, Economic, Education, Transportation Geographic Organization: Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Periods: Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930 Resource Types: Small family farmstead, Rural vernacular, stores, school, railroad bridge

In 1862 there was no town of Alesia, but in the area Jacob Hoffacker had a grist mill and sawmill. Many of the surrounding farms were owned by members of the Hoffacker family. By 1877, Samuel Hoffacker was running the grist and sawmill, and there was also a distillery in the immediate area. According to local history, this was an applejack distillery that was run by Samuel Hoffacker, and the existence of these two businesses is what brought the railroad through in 1879. Of course, the railroad happens to follow a branch of the Gunpowder Falls from just north of Millers all the way to Lineboro, and more likely it was this level ground that drew the railroad, just as the water attracted the mills and distillery. While their presence may not have drawn the railroad, they probably did help to draw others to this railroad site. Local history also claims that one of the surveyors on the railroad became enamored of Samuel Hoffacker's daughter, Alicia, and the village was thus named for her, though it was spelled differently. The Baltimore and Hanover Railroad (Western Maryland Railroad, now

Major Bibliographical References Survey No. CARR-577 1862 & 1877 maps "Alesia" no author, typescript, HSCC VF, 1975 Prall, Joan. Schoolbells and Slates, 1990, p. 27 Nott, Donald, and Peggy Dement, "History of Millers Maryland" typescript, 1976 HSCC VF Westminster Times, 4-19-1912, p. 1, c-5. reprint. ed. 10-11-1991 **Geographical Data** 10. Acreage of nominated property _ Quadrangle name Lineboro Quadrangle scale 1:2400 UTM References do NOT complete UTM references Verbal boundary description and justification List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries state code county code state code county code Form Prepared By name/title Kenneth M. Short, Historic Planner organization Carroll County Planning Department date August 3, 1992 street & number 225 North Center Street telephone (410) 857-2145 city or town Westminster state Maryland The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust

Shaw House 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST DHCP/DHCD 100 COMMUNITY PLACE CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023 -514-7600

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 2

It has a center entrance on the southeast with a four-panel door, and has 2/2 sash. This elevation has a shed-roof porch with chamfered posts and turned balusters on the stairs up to the house. Also on this property is a frame shed two stories high, with vertical board siding and a gable roof. The southwest elevation faces Hoffmanville Road and has a single door on rollers on the west end. The second story has a central door on strap hinges with a swivel arm of wood that has a wood block on the end. The southeast elevation has a vertical board dutch door on strap hinges to the south, a pent roof across the first story, and a four-light sash in the gable end. The northwest elevation has a one-story, shed-roof wing that is enclosed on the north half with vertical board siding. There is a four-light sash in the gable end.

The house at 4715 Alesia Road is a 2½-story, five-bay by two-bay banked building with a center entrance plan. It has a rubble stone foundation with quoins, German siding, and a gable roof of standing-seam metal. The house faces northwest, toward the road, and is banked on the southeast. The cellar is three bays, with 6/6 sash and a vertical, beaded-edge-and-center board door in the center. The first story entrance has double doors and a transom. The sash are 4/4 but the blinds are now missing. There is a raised, one-story, five-bay porch with chamfered posts at the cellar level and four panelled posts above. There are jigsawn balusters and brackets and some brackets surviving on the porch cornice. There is a central gable on the front with a semi-circular 2/2 sash. Also on the property is a bank barn with a rubble stone lower story except for the northwest wall, which is of horizontal boards. This wall has three doors. The upper story is vertical board siding with a single door centered on the northwest elevation. There is a stone barnyard wall. There is also a poultry house with beaded-edge-andcenter vertical board siding and a shed roof with standing-seam metal. There is another poultry house with vertical board siding and a standing-seam metal shed roof. Next to it is a corn crib with vertical slats and a standing-seam metal shed roof. Beyond the corn crib is a shed with a gable roof of standing-seam metal, vertical board siding, stone foundation walls on the ends, and a wagon shed addition on the southeast.

The house at 4721 Alesia Road is a two-story, four-bay by two-bay, banked structure built on a "Pennsylvania Farmhouse" plan. The foundation is of rubble stone, with aluminum siding partially covering asbestos shingle siding, and a gable roof with inverted-V-seam metal. The house has new 1/1 and 6/6 sash. The two central doors appear to have two lights at the top, with a two-light transom above. The house is banked on the southeast and faces northwest. The cellar level has been enclosed with CMU's and has six fifteen-light sash and a central door. Above, there are six chamfered posts and square, vertical balusters above a horizontal board rail. There is a new wing attached to the cellar of the southwest. Also on the property is a privy with plywood

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 3

siding, a vertical board door, and a gable roof with wood shingles. Across the street is a 1½-story carriage house with a CMU foundation, German siding, and corrugated metal on the gable roof. The southeast elevation faces the road and has two roll-up doors and a four-panel wood door. Above is a central gable with a 6/6 sash. The building is two-bays deep and has a 6/6 sash in each gable end and a square roof vent, with hip-roof, on the center of the ridge. Next to the carriage house is a poultry house with beaded-edge-and-center vertical board siding and a corrugated metal shed roof. There are two 6/6 sash and a shuttered central opening on the southeast elevation.

The house at 4729 Alesia Road is a 1½-story cottage with asbestos shingle siding and a central dormer with three 3/1 sash.

The building at 4730 Alesia Road is a two-story, four-bay by two-bay structure of all-stretcher-bond brick and with a gable roof of standing-seam metal. The windows have 4/4 sash with splayed jack arches and wood sills, and a few retain their blinds. The northwest elevation faces the railroad tracks. The first story of this facade has an enclosed porch, partly of CMU's. The wall behind it appears to have five bays, with three windows at the ends and center and two doors between them. The second story has a frame and tar-paper bay addition on the north-central bay and appears to have a door beneath it in the brick wall. There is a semi-circular date panel in each gable end, but with no writing visible. There is a one-story, shed-roof addition with aluminum siding on the southwest end. Another one-story, standing-seam-metal shed roof addition is on the southeast elevation. It has aluminum siding, two doors, and six twelve-light sash. Attached to the east end of this porch is a one-story, three-bay frame summer kitchen with aluminum siding and a standing-seam metal gable roof. It has 4/4 sash with three-panel shutters and a door in the east bay of the southeast elevation that has four lights over two panels.

The house at 4737 Alesia Road is a two-story, four-bay, banked, "Pennsylvania Farmhouse" plan building. It is banked on the southeast and faces northwest. There is a rubble stone foundation with quoins, aluminum siding, and a gable roof with inverted-V-seam metal. The northwest (front) elevation faces the road and has a central flush door in the cellar, flanked by a 6/6 sash with blinds on each side. The first story originally had two central doors, but the north-center one has been replaced with a window. The other is half-glazed. The house has 2/2 sash. There is a raised, one-story, shed-roof porch with a rebuilt structure. The house has an ell on the south end of the southeast elevation and a one-bay "Beverly Jog" on the southwest end. The house has a kitchen fireplace on the southwest end of the cellar. The joists are hewn on top and bottom. The first story is divided in the center by a wall running northwest to southeast with a

Description (continued)

Section 7 Page 4

wide opening in the middle of the wall. There are winder stairs in the south corner. The rafters are three-quarter-round logs. Also on the property is a smokehouse with a stone foundation, board-and-batten siding, and a hip roof with new wood shingles. The roof has a wood box vent at the peak with five holes on each side. The door is on the northwest. The smokehouse never had a tree, but instead has wires twisted inside for holding the hooks. There is also a garage with a CMU foundation, German siding, a gable roof and three hinged doors on the northwest end. There was formerly a door here on rollers.

The house at 4801 Alesia Road is a two-story, four-bay by two-bay "Pennsylvania Farmhouse" plan structure with a parged foundation, aluminum siding, and an asphalt shingle gable roof. It is banked on the southeast. There are two center doors. The north-center has a lying panel at the top, a single light, and three lying panels at the bottom, and the west-center door has a large light above a lying panel with two vertical panels at the bottom. The windows have 2/2 sash. There is a shed-roofed porch across the first story of the northwest elevation.

The house at 4803(?) Alesia Road is a two-story structure with two 2/2 sash on the second story and an enclosed porch on the first. It has aluminum siding and a gable roof with standing-seam metal. The house is banked on the southeast, and the northwest cellar has an exposed rubble stone wall of three bays, with a central, vertical board door and two 6/6 sash. There is a shed-roof addition on the rear. Also on the property is a one-story garage with beaded-edge-and-center vertical board siding, double doors on hinges on the northwest end, and a gable roof with corrugated metal. There are two four-light sash on the southwest elevation.

The house at 4725 Hoffmanville Road burned a few years ago and has been replaced with a new house, but some of the outbuildings survive. Foremost among these is the bank barn, which has a rubble stone lower story, with horizontal wood siding under the west-facing forebay. The upper story has clapboard siding and the gable roof has standing-seam metal and a square ventilator box on the ridge with a hipped roof. The west elevation has three vertical board dutch doors on the lower story and vertical board double doors, with two wood louvered vents on each side, on the upper story. There is a one-bay, shed-roof addition on the south end. It has a stone foundation on the south and east, and is open on the west. There are also several large poultry houses on the property that are probably post-World War II.

The building at 4002 Alesia to Lineboro Road is a two-story, two-bay by four-bay banked structure. It has a rubble stone foundation, asbestos shingle siding and a gable

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST STATE HISTORIC SITES INVENTORY FORM

Description (continued)

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roof of corrugated metal. The two-bay gable front faces southeast and has a door with Queen Anne sash in the east bay. The sash are 4/4 with two small 4/2 sash in the gable end. There is a one-story, shed-roof porch with four square wood posts and square, vertical balusters. The northeast elevation faces the road and has a four-panel wood door with a two-bay transom in the north bay of the first story. The exposed cellar on this facade has double vertical-board doors on strap hinges in the east-center bay.

The building at 4004 Alesia to Lineboro Road is a one-story, four-bay banked structure with aluminum siding, new 6/6 sash, and a gable roof of corrugated metal. There is a large opening in the two eastern bays of the northeast elevation that is now enclosed with vertical, beaded-edge-and-center boards.

The railroad bridge crosses Alesia to Lineboro Road at this point. It has two abutments of large, rock-faced ashlar granite that is stacked pyramidally. These abutments support four steel I-beams that in turn support the wood cross ties and steel rails.

The house at 4024 Alesia to Lineboro Road is a two-story structure with aluminum siding and a gable roof of standing-seam metal. The windows have 6/6 sash and inoperable blinds. the second story of the front (southeast) elevation is two bays, while the first story was probably a four-bay, "Pennsylvania Farmhouse" plan. It has a four-panel wood door located east of center and a three-bay porch with a standing-seam metal shed roof. The porch covers the eastern three bays and has been partially enclosed by T1-11 siding. The house is banked on the southeast, with the rubble stone northwest (rear) cellar wall exposed.

West of the former house on Alesia to Lineboro Road is a two-story banked structure with a rubble stone foundation, asphalt shingle siding and a gable roof with inverted-V-seam metal. It is three bays on the second story of the southeast (front) elevation, with 2/2 sash. The first story has a shed roof porch that is half enclosed with T1-11, and has re-used chamfered posts. There is a new door east of center. The cellar level of the porch is enclosed with CMU's. There is an enclosed one-story porch on the rear, with a shed roof to the south is a stone foundation for a bank barn with integral wagon shed .

KS/lh:descrip.26

Significance (continued)

Section 8 Page 2

CSX) completed the branch on 1 December 1879, and the town seems to have arisen in the following years. The applejack distillery was moved across the road, and ironically became the Free Methodist parsonage for some time. The church itself (CARR-1089) is about ¾ of a mile northeast of town, and was built in 1906, two years after the organization of the congregation.

There was much other activity in Alesia after the arrival of the railroad. The Knights of Pythias built the structure at 4002 Alesia to Lineboro Road, and then the organization broke up. The Junior Order of United American Mechanics Lodge took over. The order had been started by the Hoffackers around 1900. The hall was upstairs and the lower story was used as a school. There was agitation in 1912 for the County to build a new brick school, in part because the old school was too close to the railroad and children were jumping the 15 to 25 trains passing through each day, especially those during recess and lunch. The County was renting the space for \$50.00. Apparently, though, this building remained the school until 1931. The hall was also used as a band hall, and for Sunday School at one time.

There were several stores in the town. One was next to the band hall and was run by the Sandruck family for many years.

The second store is in the center of the village. This store was owned by the Hoffacker, Blocher, Spicer, Jenkins and presently [1975] the Church family. At one time, wheat was shipped out of Alesia via train. Items such as corn, calves, eggs, etc. were loaded by hucksters onto the train, then taken to Baltimore for sale by the hucksters. There was a warehouse located beside the store. This store served as a train station, and the post office was located inside the store.

After the Churches, the Fishbaughs apparently ran it. There was also a Landis' store that was later run by a Mr. Wisner. A blacksmith shop was located at the corner of 4708 Alesia Road, and was apparently run by the Sandruck family for many years. The rear wing of 4737 Alesia Road was originally a free-standing, two-story cobbler shop that was moved to the back of the house at an unknown date, according to the owner of the property. Many of the houses in the area were built by John Haines, who was 91-years-old in 1975, according to local history.

There were many limekilns in the area, and one of the largest was located on the Alesia Road, heading toward Millers, about ¼ of a mile from Alesia. It was located near the railroad tracks, and was in use until the early 1900's. It was described as follows:

Significance (continued)

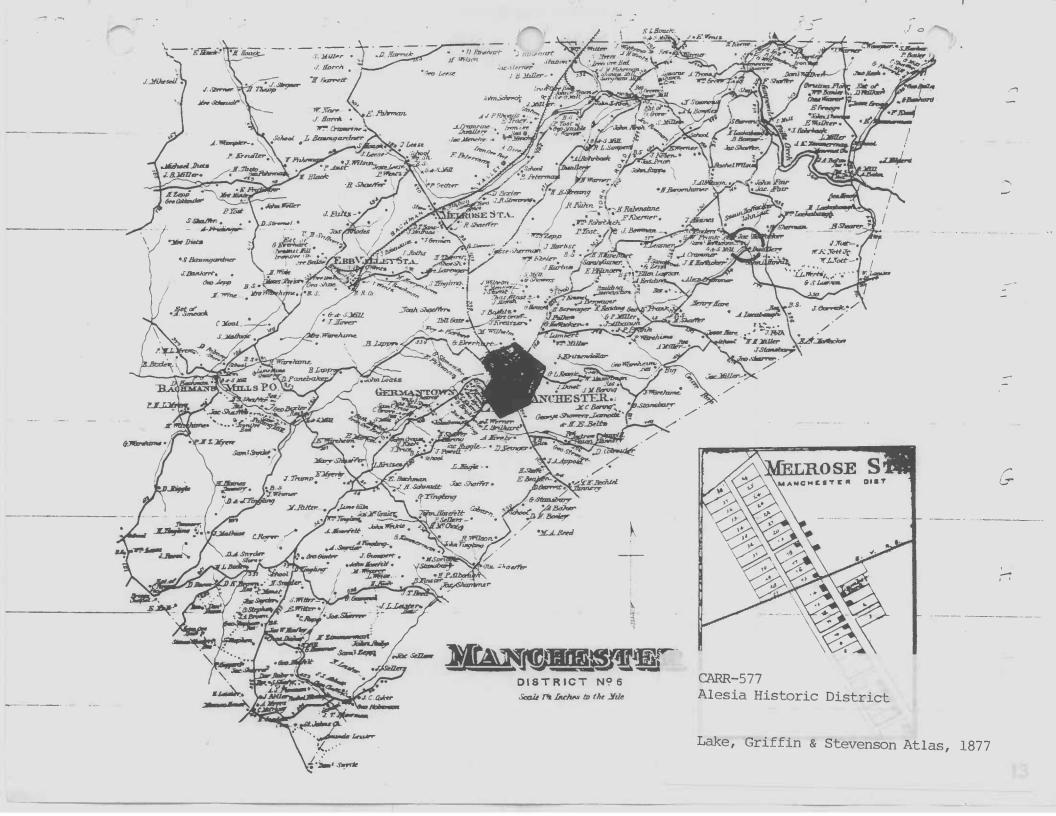
Section 8 Page 3

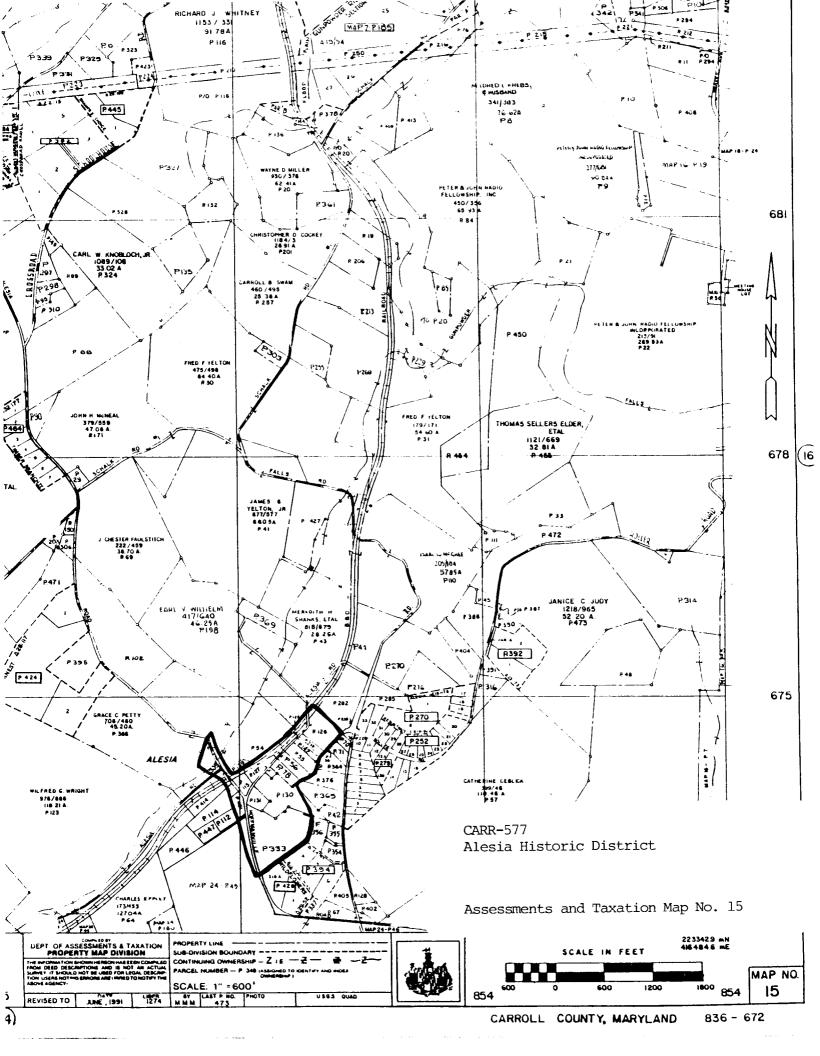
The limekiln was a large hole dug in a hillside. The hole was approximately 10 feet deep in diameter at the top and tapered to a cone shape at the bottom which was about 15 to 18 feet deep. An "Arch" of large limestone was made at the bottom of the pit so a fire could be built. The remainder of the hole was filled with smaller limestone. Large pieces of wood was [sic] placed in the "Arch" to keep the fire burning which would burn for three or four days. As the limestone, consisting mainly of calcium carbonate, burned, it pulverized and became a powder. Depending on the size of the kiln, 700 or 800 bushels of lime could be made at a time.

The lime was used for crops, whitewash, fruit trees, and disinfectant in stables and chicken houses. Most limekilns were owned by farmers and were operated for their own personal use, but the products of the Alesia limekiln were sold to farmers and shipped in railcars.

KS/lh:7/30/92:signif26.











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